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THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) & (b) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to the Vaigai Reservoir Project. Construction of the dam (not anicut) has started and preliminary works such as lockspitting the area of the dam and reservoir, demarcating the areas for camps and buildings, formation of approach roads and exploration of the dam foundations are being done. Construction equipment and other stores are being acquired.

" (c) About 300 to 400
About 150 to 280 of them.

" (d) & (e) No representation has been received by the Government. But representations have been received by the local officers and these have been sympathetically considered and the requests are being complied with as far as possible."

Teaching of Hindi in schools in the City.

* 488 Q.—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state the number of schools in the City of Madras teaching Hindi as second language and as optional language?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Hindi is taught as a third language (optional) in 62 Secondary schools in the City of Madras, and it is not taught as second language in any school in the State. It is taught under Part I of the First language in six schools."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state the policy of this Government with regard to teaching of Hindi language in schools and colleges? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" The policy of the Government is to introduce it as quickly as possible, but at the same time not to make it compulsory."

Restoration of Mathikettan eri in Andimadam firka, Udayarpalayam taluk.

* 490 Q.—SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) when the estimate for the restoration of Pudukkudi alias Mathikettan eri in Andimadam firka, Udayarpalayam taluk, was prepared under the Food Production Tank Improvement Scheme; and

(b) when the work is likely to be taken up for execution?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" (a) The estimate for the irrigation work has been prepared in September 1954 under the Special Minor Irrigation Programme.

" (b) The matter is under consideration."

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SRI S. JAYARAMA REDDIAR :—" இந்த மதிகெட்டான் என்ற பெயரை மாற்றி அந்த ஏரிக்கு வேறு பெயர் வைக்க அரசாங்கம் முன் வருமா ? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" தனிக் கேள்வி போடுங்கள்."

Lathi charge on Taj Mahal Beedi Workers at Washermanpet, Madras.

* 491 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there was any lathi charge by police on Taj Mahal Beedi Workers at Washermanpet, Madras, on 13th November 1954; and

(*b*) how many workers were

(i) injured;

(ii) arrested by the police on that day; and

(iii) either admitted or treated as out-patients in the hospitals as a result of lathi charge?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (*b*) It is reported that forty workers were injured. Seven of them were admitted in the hospital as in-patients while the rest were treated as out-patients. The number of persons arrested by the police so far is 40."

* 492 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any enquiry was conducted into the lathi charge of the Police on the beedi workers employed in Taj Mahal Beedi Factory, Tiruvottiyur, on 13th November 1954; and

(*b*) if so, what the findings of the enquiry were and what action was taken on the finding?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" May I know whether it is a fact that the police prevented the workers from going near the factory, whether the police adopted a provocative attitude towards the workers and whether the lathi charge on the workers was ordered to help the owner of the factory? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" No Sir. The Police were there to prevent any breach of the peace. Workers were allowed to picket peacefully. But when they resorted to violence, a lathi charge was ordered."